

I have only time to refer to the "Century Magazine," or rather to two articles in recent issues. Mr. H. T. Lodge in the October number has an article, "Why patronage in offices is un-American." Mr. Lodge holds that such patronage is born of despotisms and aristocracies. This may be, Mr. Lodge, but it is none the less true that nowhere, as far as I know, in all the world is there such wholesale patronage as in connection with American presidential elections, extending often from the professors in State universities to country postmasters, any of whom may be swept away, with circumstances of gross injustice and cruelty, to make room for carpet bagging friends of the unwashed but elected patrons. The system is disgraceful and demoralizing : creating an army of hangers-on that ought to be set to hard work and made useful. In the September number, not yet noticed, the Rev. Charles W. Shields, D.D., has a paper on The Social Problem of Church Unity. Taking for his text Voltaire's sneer, that, when Christendom should have opposed a united front to the Saracens, it was divided into two hostile camps on the Monothelete question, Dr. Shields proceeds, briefly but with much ability, to show the necessity for Christian unity at the present day in view of the mighty forces of evil the Church has to oppose. Dr. Shields writes Monothelete, or perhaps the printer did it for him : you know, whichever of you it was, that you can't turn *et* into *i*.

The veteran Premier of Ontario is among the Apologists. His lecture on Christianity and some of its Evidences, published in extenso in the Toronto Globe, is an admirable summary. If some of our ministers or professors were to deliver such a lecture, they would be characterized as old fogies, behind the age, and all the rest. It is refreshing, therefore, to find an accomplished lawyer and very able statesman, first of all, true to his colours as a Christian man, and secondly, bold enough to declare, though with a freshness all his own, the good old arguments of ancient days. Many of these are still valid, and all of them are helpful in confirming the faith of those Christians who have not found their way into the heart of Christianity. But our ministers need to know more than this, namely, the way to reach the higher consciousness, the heart and conscience of the sceptic and the infidel. Paley and Keith will glance off from their mailed coat of unbelief as weapons from the armour of Achilles. We are trying now to find the agnostic's vulnerable heel. The confessions of Rousseau, Mill and other writers who have patronized the Christ of God, the infidel meets at once by saying "Why